CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A computer-implemented method for annotating, comprising:

    (a) obtaining a sequence of frames to be consecutively displayed on a display

    device, wherein a frame comprises one or more images;

    (b) obtaining annotation information, wherein the annotation information

    comprises:

    (i) an identification of a frame;

    (ii) an annotation, and

    (iii) a location on the identified frame to display the annotation;

    (c) consecutively displaying one or more of the sequence of frames until the

    identified frame is displayed;

    (d) pausing the display of the sequence of frames when the identified frame

    is displayed; and

    (e) displaying the annotation at the location.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the annotation comprises text.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the annotation comprises an arrow.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the annotation comprises a primitive

shape.

5.   The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence of frames comprises an animation.

6.   The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence of frames comprises a

5   video.

7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the annotation information is defined in conformance with an extensible markup language (XML) schema.

10   8.   The method of claim 1 wherein the displaying of the annotation comprises overlaying the annotation on the paused frame at the location.

9.   An apparatus for annotating in a computer system comprising:

(a)   a computer system having a memory and a display device coupled

15   thereto;

(b)   a sequence of frames stored in the memory, wherein a frame comprises one or more images, and wherein the frames are capable of being consecutively displayed on the display device;

(c)   annotation information stored in the memory, wherein the annotation

20   information comprises:

(i)   an identification of a frame;

(ii)   an annotation; and

(iii)   a location on the identified frame to display the annotation;

(d) a computer program executing on the computer system, wherein the computer program is configured to:

(i) display one or more of the sequence of frames until the identified frame is displayed;

(ii) pause the display of the sequence of frames when the identified frame is displayed; and

(iii) display the annotation at the location.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the annotation comprises text.

11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the annotation comprises an arrow.

12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the annotation comprises a primitive shape.

13. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the sequence of frames comprises an animation.

14. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the sequence of frames comprises a video.

15. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the annotation information is defined in conformance with an extensible markup language (XML) schema.

16.   The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the computer program is configured to display the annotation by overlaying the annotation on the paused frame at the location.

5   17.   An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for annotating in a computer system, the method comprising:

        (a)   obtaining a sequence of frames to be consecutively displayed on a display
10   device, wherein a frame comprises one or more images;

        (b)   obtaining annotation information, wherein the annotation information comprises:

                (i)   an identification of a frame;

                (ii)   an annotation; and

15   (iii)   a location on the identified frame to display the annotation;

        (c)   consecutively displaying one or more of the sequence of frames until the identified frame is displayed;

        (d)   pausing the display of the sequence of frames when the identified frame is displayed; and

20   (e)   displaying the annotation at the location.

        18.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the annotation comprises text.

19.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the annotation comprises an arrow.

5   20.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the annotation comprises a primitive shape.

21.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the sequence of frames comprises an animation.

10

22.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the sequence of frames comprises a video.

23.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the annotation

15   information is defined in conformance with an extensible markup language (XML) schema.

24.   The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the displaying of the annotation comprises overlaying the annotation on the paused frame at the location.